

REMARKS

The Specification has been amended to include SEQ ID numbers which were omitted at the time of filing and renumber erroneously numbered sequences.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of changes made to the Specification by the current amendemnt. The attached page is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made".

The undersigned hereby states that the computer readable form copy (CFR copy) of the Sequence Listing and the paper copy of the Sequence Listing, submitted in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.825(a) and (b), respectively, are the same and contain no new matter. Accordingly, entry of the Sequence Listing into the above-captioned case is respectfully requested.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Assistant Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 03-1952 referencing docket no. 397272000700. However, the Assistant Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: March 13, 2002

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the Specification:

Paragraph beginning at page 39, line 4, has been amended as follows:

Accordingly, the present invention also provides a vector, which, if DNA, comprises a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS:2, 4, 5, 6, [7,] 15, 16, [17 and 18] and, which, if RNA, comprises a nucleotide sequence encoded by a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS:4, 5, 6[, 7].

Paragraph beginning at page 39, line 27, has been amended as follows:

Also provided by the present invention is a method of modifying a vector. The method comprises obtaining a vector and introducing into the vector a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of the DNA sequences of SEQ ID NOS:2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 14, in which at least one N is mutated, 15 and 16, if the vector is DNA, and a nucleotide sequence encoded by a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS:2, 4, 5, 6, [7,] 15, 16, [17 and 18] if the vector is RNA.

Paragraph beginning at page 40, line 1, has been amended as follows:

Also provided is an isolated and purified nucleic acid molecule selected from the group consisting of a DNA molecule comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS:2, 5, 6, 14, in which at least one N is mutated, 15 and 16 and a RNA molecule comprising a nucleotide sequence encoded by a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS:2, 6, [7,] 15, 16[, 17 and 18].

Paragraph beginning at page 69, line 38, has been amended as follows:

Additional examples of splice-donor site combinations, as well as a consensus sequence, are provided below. While all may be used, the HIV major, HIV-1 env, HIV-2 major, and analog splice-donor combinations are preferred.

| | | |
|---------------------------|------------------|----------------|
| CONSENSUS SPLICE DONOR: | NNNNAGGTAAGTNNN | (SEQ ID NO:7) |
| BETA-GLOBIN SPLICE DONOR: | NGGGCAGGTAAGTAT | (SEQ ID NO:8) |
| HIV MAJOR SPLICE DONOR: | NNGACTGGTGAGTAN | (SEQ ID NO:9) |
| HIV-1 ENV SPLICE DONOR : | AAAGCAGTAAGTAGT | (SEQ ID NO:10) |
| HIV-2 ENV SPLICE DONOR: | AGACAAGTGAGTAAG | (SEQ ID NO:11) |
| HIV-2 MAJOR SPLICE DONOR: | NNGAAGGTAAGTGCN | (SEQ ID NO:12) |
| ANALOG SPLICE DONOR: | CTTCAGGGTGAGTTNN | (SEQ ID NO:17) |

Paragraph beginning at page 70, line 19, has been amended as follows:

This example describes the amino acid sequence of a chimeric HIV CTL epitope for use in the practice of the invention. The sequence (SEQ ID NO:18) contains a first methionine (M) to initiate translation followed by various contiguous subsequences corresponding to p17, p24, p15, Pol, Rev, gp120env, gp41env, and nef, respectively.